



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

**AGRICULTURAL REPORT,***From January 20, till February 20.*

THE weather has continued remarkably mild for the Season; during the last four weeks, very little frost or storm has intervened to interrupt the progress of the Plough, and notwithstanding this, there appears but a small proportion of the land designed for Corn, turned up in many parts of the country.

Wheat in most districts has a favourable appearance, and we may hope for a plentiful crop of that grain this year, to compensate for the deficiency of the last.

Very little alteration has taken place in the prices of grain since last report, there is as yet no certainty of the public licensed stills being allowed to work, which if determined in the affirmative, it has been alleged, would considerably raise the price of oats; and indeed considering that such an opinion has been generally circulated, it is not improbable that oats and oat meal would advance for some time, but it is also probable that the rise would be only temporary.

The last year's crop of oats was certainly a good one, and there is a large stock in the country.

The distillers could not afford to give a high price for grain, and they would consequently limit their agents in that respect, and if proper measures are pursued to suppress the private stills, which it is the duty of the Government and the interest of the country to do; there seems very little, if any reason for apprehending that a scarcity will be the consequence, of preferring public to private distillation, a legal productive manufacture to a clandestine and wasteful consumption of grain, which corrupts the morals of the people in the districts where it is carried on, occasions a great deficiency in the revenue, and must compel the government to lay on additional taxes, to supply the want.

The openness of the weather during the winter months, has been favourable for saving hay and straw; and the scarcity expected to have resulted from the loss by floods and heavy rains, in the hay season, will not be much felt.

---

**COMMERCIAL REPORT.**

BOTH in and out of parliament, the praises of our great trade are trumpeted forth, but it is not all gold that glitters. Great as are the entries at the custom-houses, many articles are sent to distant markets, as for instance, to South America, where the sale is uncertain, and the profits eventually often very small, and in some cases the adventures are attended with loss. In forming the estimates of our real state, many deductions must on these accounts be made: but even if trade flourished more than is really the case, the wisdom of our orders in council and other commercial regulations is not proved. Trade does not flourish in consequence of these pernicious regulations, but rather their baneful influence has not hitherto proved able to repress our commercial energies.

The United States of North America still present an appearance of hostility. Pressed by France, and irritated by England, they find it difficult to preserve their neutral rights. War with one or both of the contending parties will probably be the result. In the mean time, trade suffers from the fluctuating accounts which arrive in succession, and almost daily change the appearance of the markets for American produce.

The late linen market in Dublin was unusually bad for fine linens. Coarse linens, which were rather scarce, sold but at reduced prices, compared with those obtained at the former market. Some of the linens bought some months ago, on speculation, sold at nine-pence per yard under the prices at which they were bought. The speculators deserved to suffer, as by their schemes, they materially deranged the regular state of the manufacture. These linens selling at such reduced rates, obstructed the usual sales; the buyers still holding off, in hopes of obtaining similar bargains.

Distillation from grain is likely to be permitted in Ireland. The policy of this measure is very questionable, for although the harvest was pretty abundant in Ireland, and potatoes, our essential support, in plenty, still England is not secure from the danger of prices rising too high. A stop should be put to illicit distillation, as destructive to morals and injurious to the revenue. It is at present carried on to a great extent both in Ireland and Scotland. If importations of grain from France, which are so rapidly draining from us the remains of our specie, were stopped, and the English market exclusively confined to their own produce, and the importations from Ireland, the Irish land-holder would probably have no just cause to complain of low prices.